

HONOUR BASED ABUSE & FORCED MARRIAGE

Honour Based Violence & Abuse is a crime or incident, which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of a family and/or community because it has been perceived that a person has brought shame or dishonour on them.

Forced marriage is a marriage without the consent of one or both parties and where duress is a factor. Duress can include physical, psychological, financial, sexual and emotional pressure. It includes incidents where consent is given but the person did not have the full facts about the proposed spouse. Culture, religion and tradition are no excuse. Forced Marriage is a violation of a person's human rights and is illegal in the UK.



I'm going on holiday and don't think I'm coming back



The marriage has been decided
I can't let my family down



I don't want to leave school



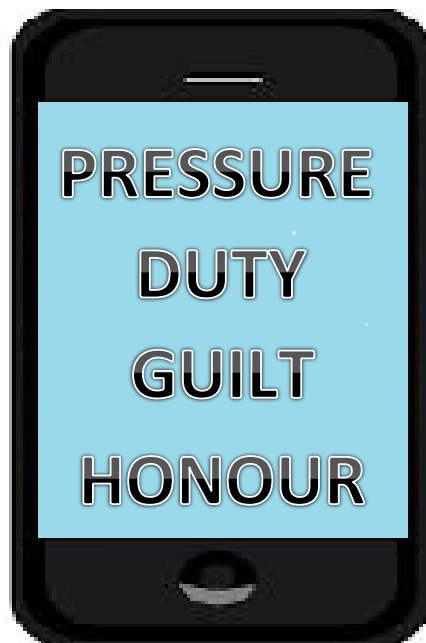
Do not bring shame on this family-
you must marry him



We will never speak to you again
if you don't do as you're told



This marriage is your only option



INDICATORS (this is a non-exhaustive list):

- Accompanied to medical appointments/not attending appointments
- Self-harm/attempted suicide/eating disorders
- Substance misuse
- Unwanted pregnancy
- Truancy/missing from home/withdrawing from education
- Excessive restrictions, e.g. house arrest

For further training and information contact:

Equation – www.equation.org.uk or Karma Nirvana www.karmanirvana.org.uk

HM Government (2014) Multi-agency practice guidelines: Handling cases of Forced Marriage